

**DECLARATION**

AS A BELOW NAMED INVENTOR, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated next to my name.

I believe that I am the original, first and sole (*if only one name is listed below*), or an original, first and joint inventor (*if plural names are listed below*), of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**TITLE: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR INFORMATION HYPERCHAIN  
MANAGEMENT FOR ON-DEMAND BUSINESS COLLABORATION**

the specification of which is attached hereto or indicates an attorney docket no. SOM920030006US1, or:

☒ was filed in the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office on September 19, 2003 and assigned Serial No. 10/665,699,

☐ and (*if applicable*) was amended on \_\_\_\_\_.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability and to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations §1.56. I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, U.S. Code §119(a)-(d) or §365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or §365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States, or §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s), listed below and have also identified below any foreign applications for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

**Priority Claimed:**

Yes [ ] No [ ]

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Application Number) (Country) (Day/Month/Year filed)

Yes [ ] No [ ]

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I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, U.S. Code §120, of any United States application(s), or §365(c), of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International applications(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, U.S. Code §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

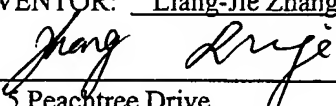
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(Application Serial Number) (Filing Date) (STATUS: patented, pending, abandoned)


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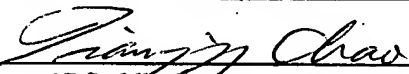
I hereby appoint the following attorneys: **STEVEN J. MEYERS**, Reg. No. 29,330; **MARC D. SCHECHTER**, Reg. No. 28,989; **DAVID M. SHOFI**, Reg. No. 39,835; and **FREDERICK T. BOEHM**, Reg. No. 32,458; each of them of **INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION**, IP Law Department, Somers, NY 10589; to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith and with any divisional, continuation, continuation-in-part, reissue or re-examination application, with full power of appointment and with full power to substitute an associate attorney or agent, and to receive all patents which may issue thereon, and request that all correspondence be addressed to:

William E. Lewis  
RYAN, MASON & LEWIS, LLP  
90 Forest Avenue  
Locust Valley, NY 11560  
Tel.: (516) 759-2946

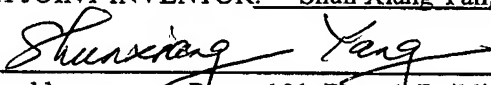
I HEREBY DECLARE that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under §1001 of Title 18 U.S. Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

FULL NAME OF FIRST OR SOLE INVENTOR: Liang-Jie Zhang Citizenship P.R. China  
 Inventor's signature:  Date: 2/5/2004  
 Residence & Post Office address: 5 Peachtree Drive  
Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567

FULL NAME OF SECOND JOINT INVENTOR: John Youssef Sayah Citizenship U.S.A.  
 Inventor's signature:  Date: 2/10/2004  
 Residence & Post Office address: 150 Minard Avenue  
Sleepy Hollow, NY 10591

FULL NAME OF THIRD JOINT INVENTOR: Tian-Jy Chao Citizenship U.S.A.  
 Inventor's signature:  Date: 2/9/2004  
 Residence & Post Office address: 17 Saddle Court  
Bedford, NY 10506

FULL NAME OF FOURTH JOINT INVENTOR: Ying Nan Zuo Citizenship P.R. China  
 Inventor's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Residence & Post Office address: Room 1809, Building 18  
An Hui Bei Li, Chao Yang District  
Beijing 100101  
P.R. China

FULL NAME OF FIFTH JOINT INVENTOR: Shun Xiang Yang Citizenship P.R. China  
 Inventor's signature:  Date: 2/10/2004  
 Residence & Post Office address: Room 101, Door 4, Building 13  
Dong Wang Zhuan, Haidian District  
Beijing 100083  
P.R. China

FULL NAME OF SIXTH JOINT INVENTOR: Jing Min Xu Citizenship P.R. China  
 Inventor's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Residence & Post Office address: 17-2-1102, Xiuju Yuan  
Beiyuan Garden  
Beijing 100012  
P.R. China

FULL NAME OF SEVENTH JOINT INVENTOR: Yiming Ye Citizenship P.R. China

Inventor's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Residence & Post Office address: Haiyan Wang (Signing on Behalf of  
Deceased Inventor Yiming Ye)  
30 Lake Street, #61  
White Plains, NY 10603

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Inventor's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Residence & Post Office address: 5 Peachtree Drive  
Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567

FULL NAME OF SECOND JOINT INVENTOR: John Youssef Sayah Citizenship U.S.A.

Inventor's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Residence & Post Office address: 150 Millard Avenue  
Sleepy Hollow, NY 10591

FULL NAME OF THIRD JOINT INVENTOR: Tian-Jy Chao Citizenship U.S.A.

Inventor's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Residence & Post Office address: 17 Saddle Court  
Bedford, NY 10506

FULL NAME OF FOURTH JOINT INVENTOR: Ying Nan Zuo Citizenship P.R. China

Inventor's signature: Ying Nan Zuo Date: 2004/02/06  
 Residence & Post Office address: Room 1809, Building 18  
An Hui Bei Li, Chao Yang District  
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FULL NAME OF FIFTH JOINT INVENTOR: Shun Xiang Yang Citizenship P.R. China

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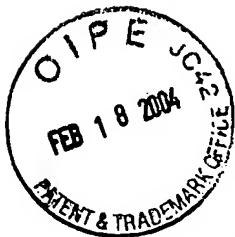
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FULL NAME OF SEVENTH JOINT INVENTOR: Yiming Ye      Citizenship P.R. China  
Inventor's signature:       Date: Feb. 7. 2004  
Residence & Post Office address: Haiyan Wang (Signing on Behalf of  
Deceased Inventor Yiming Ye)  
30 Lake Street, #61  
White Plains, NY 10603